

Commission on Aging

October 27,2022, at 9:30 a.m.

Virtually Via Zoom

COA Board Members : Wayne Berman, Neal Brown, Virginia Cain, Elizabeth (Betsy) Carrier, Jean Dinwiddie, Joyce Dubow ,David Engel, Nkiru J. Ezeani, Dr. Arunima Ghosh, Morris Klein, Kendell Matthews, Nanine Meiklejohn, Yvette Monroe, Sibon Ncube, Karon Phillips, Helen (Laurie) Pross, Richard Ricciardi, Edgar Rivas, Beverly Rollins, Barbara Selter, Kate Smith, Mary Sweeney, Marsha Weber, T. Ryan Wilson **Absent:** Mona Y. Grieser, Robert Levy, Rev. Dr. Ruby Moon, Tho Tran, Arthur Williams , Janice Zalen **Alumni:** Charles Kaufman **Liaison:** Sara Swarr , MC Dept. Recreation, Phoebe Shih, Asian American Health Initiative , Denise Isreal, MC Dept. Of Transportation, Jim Resnick, MC Fire & Rescue (MCFR) Tara Clemmons Johnson, Leg. Analyst, MC Council , Sean Curry , Prevention of Blindness **Staff:** Odile Brunetto , ED.D Aging and Disability Services , DHHS, Patrice L. McGhee, DPA Area Agency on Aging and Disability , Shawn Brennan, Department of Health and Human Services, Transportation and Mobility and CoA, Tremayne Jones, Office Services Coordinator , A&D, HHS, Marcia Pruzan, Age Friendly, Coordinator **Guests:** Tim Ferguson, fire & Explosives Investigations/ Mobile Integrated Health Pgm. , Avila Graves, Mobile Integrated Health Program, MCFR, Beth Ann Nessel, Fire and Rescue, and Sean Curry, Prevention of Blindness

<p>Welcome- Barbara Selter, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll Call/ Attendee -Eddie Rivas, Vice Chair • Introduction of New Commissioners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The chair welcomed and introduced new Commissioner Yvette Monroe and new Commissioner Ric Ricciardi. They shared some information about themselves. 	<p>Action items Responsible Party</p>
<p>Area Agencies on Aging updates- Dr. Patrice Mc Ghee, Director</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARPA funds, Shawn -still under analysis in terms of some projects, requires putting organizations on the noncompetitive list. The procurement office protocol is, should there be competition in getting public funds? We made the case that given the limited time frame for these projects, we need to go to contractors who are currently in place. This is still under review, and we are waiting for a decision. The projects will need approval of the County Council. Leadership has had numerous meetings on this matter. As soon as DHHS gets final ARPA funds approval, we will inform COA. They appreciate everyone's patience. • Dr. McGhee visited the Department of Aging Durable Medical Equipment center main hub in Cheltenham MD, Prince George's County. She stated that the operation is tremendous. They break equipment down for parts and repair equipment. The equipment is provided to the community for free. But a person must complete a form to 	<p>Ms. McGhee will provide update on ARPA funds to CoA upon approval of County Council</p> <p>Notify Tremayne Jones by noon on Monday 31st for tour.</p>

<p>request equipment. The warehouse is open for tours. Montgomery County has two Equipment Centers in Silver Spring and Rockville.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maryland Access Point grant (MAP is the gateway to long term services and support in Maryland.) Ms. McGhee stated this is a one-time funds. The plan is a pilot program to expand the MAP staff. In the process of hiring three contractors under this grant: an A& D specialist, and two “connectors” to work in the community to attend community events and senior activities. 	
<p><u>Liaison Reports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Denise Isreal</u> – Dept of Transportation is actively promoting getting customers to the 14 early voting centers via metro bus and Ride- On from October 27th to November 3rd. Voting Information is on the website, and app. Free rides are available to vaccination programs and free test kits and masks. Dept of Transportation will attend Beacon Expo 50 plus to promote transportation options for adults and seniors. Hosting an in-person meeting for Ride On Reimagined on November the 15th, 10:00am at the White Oak Senior Center to discuss new changes and future services. • <u>Phoebe Shih- Asian American Health Initiative-</u> Have completed a pedestrian safety fact sheet, video, and magnet. Also, AAHI magnets that are easy to read and understand. Continuing to reach out to caregivers in November who are reluctant to share their feelings. Many are stressed out. Partnering with Caring Matters on a webinar. • <u>Sara Swarr- Recreation-</u> The Recreation Department is supporting the Montgomery Board of Elections in many centers at this time. There will be a live Senior Budget meeting on November 28th at Leisure World and being streamed at North Potomac. The budget session will be available on zoom to the public. Beacon Expo is on Sunday, October 30 at Margaret Schweinhaut Sr Center. Community members are invited to share their input as the Silver Spring Recreation Center prepares to open. They will host a community meeting on November 3 at 7:00 pm, at the Silver Spring Civic Center. East County had a nutrition training session with Carol Craig. Working on contacting Meals on Wheels to set up meal delivery around Thanksgiving. May be providing senior transportation to the Praisner Community Recreation Center. A new person has joined the senior team, James Hardy, who will support the senior program office on sports related programs for 55 plus people in the county. The goal is to build a pipeline of 	

<p>recruitment for Maryland Senior Olympics such as 5K events, instructional bocce ball and advanced Pickle ball. Question about Medicare open season sessions, Sara will put this at top of her list. Beverly commented on the great time that she had on a SOAR trip.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Marcia Pruzan- Age Friendly</u>-They are working on a logo for Age Friendly. Completed the progress reports on the ten work groups this year and submitted report to the County Executive’s office for final approval. Regional Ecosystem Summit is on November 9, 9:00 am-5:00pm, virtual and free. Age Friendly Montgomery County is actively participating with five other area Age Friendly groups. Marcia reported they have a new liaison from the office of consumer protection. • <u>Jim Resnick -Fire and Rescue</u>- Mr. Resnick reported he was at a county middle preparing boxes for KIND which provides take home food for children over the weekend. • <u>Charles Kaufman</u>- Alumni group is planning an early 2023 reunion, with recruitment and refreshment of their mission and purpose. 	
<p><u>Presentation-Fire Deaths among Older Adults, Tim Ferguson, Fire and Explosive Investigations and Mobile Integrated Health Program and Avila Graves, Program Manager, Mobile Integration Health Program</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenter Avila Graves- Mobile Integration Health Program was established for patients who were frequent callers to 911 to help these individuals be better served. Some of the needs identified were behavioral health, substance abuse, homelessness, social isolation, and people with disabilities. Many callers are seniors who lack resources, are confused, have problems with medication management, and mental health problems. She reported that this year 166 patients were high users of 911. Through partnerships with local hospitals, the health department and various community groups work to pair these patients with a variety of existing community based medical and social programs. The net result is these users are better served because they receive more appropriate types and levels of health care which meet their specific needs. They have a five-year grant to support the program. Opioid addiction is up in Montgomery County, she informed us that Narcan kits are available in the fire houses, fire trucks, ambulances, and hospitals. • Presenter Tim Ferguson, -Fire Deaths among Older Adults - In 2021 there were 22 fire fatalities among people 65 and older in Montgomery County. Most of these were structural fires and the fatalities were a result of cooking, smoking, and candles. There are several strategies and precautionary 	

<p>actions older adults and those who are disabled can take to drastically reduce the risk of becoming a fire casualty. The fire department has developed several outreach programs to seniors to educate them on how they can be safe in their homes. Mr. Ferguson left us with these tips: Have working smoke detectors on every level of your home. Keep heaters at least three feet away from things that can burn. Make an escape plan around your abilities. Close your bedroom door.</p>	
<p><u>Commission on Aging Old Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of September minutes-motion by Eddie seconded by Jean motion approved by acclamation. • Budget Report – David - Balance = \$3,968.63 <p><u>Chair’s Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminder new links for meetings- working okay • Reminder Community for Lifetime Award nominations- nominations are still open, the deadline for nominations is November 4, 2022. • Report response to library letter-Special Thank You to Beverly for writing the letter. We received a response to the letter from Anita Vassallo, Director of Montgomery County Public Libraries on October 17, 2022. • Report Budget Priorities Testimony- Barbara informed us that the testimony was well received. They requested that we collaborate with Age Friendly on an Aging Summit in 2023. • Change on CoA meeting schedule due to Thanksgiving Holiday- EC meeting Monday, November 14 and CoA meeting, Thursday Nov.17. EC meeting , December 8, post Legislative Breakfast December 15, In- Person Holiday Luncheon , COA meeting post luncheon • Orientation for New Commissioners -November 2 at 2:00 pm with officers, committee chairs and buddies on Zoom. • New Commissioners Information -Shawn <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Certificate of Completion Maryland’s Open Meetings Act ○ Certificate of Completion Parliamentary Procedures ○ Robert’s Rules ○ Attendance at all COA monthly meetings ○ Only can miss three meetings before writing an explanation letter ○ New commissioners are encouraged to attend all committee meetings in order to find one they would like to join. ○ Become a member of at least one committee ○ Overview of COA’s policies and procedures 	<p>Submit names to Wayne for The Community for Life Award</p> <p>EC meeting Monday, November 14 and CoA meeting, Thursday Nov.17. EC meeting , December 8, post Legislative Breakfast December 15, In- Person Holiday Luncheon , COA meeting post luncheon</p> <p>Committee volunteers for Public Forum contact Mary</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update Legislative Breakfast- Ryan, Morris- Invitations sent a few RSVP's. • Report on OHCQ Nursing Home Issue-No update at this time • Recommended Public Forum Topic and request for Public Forum Planning Committee- Mary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The topic for the Public Forum this year will be led by The AIC committee. The topic “ Using Tech Stay in your Home Age in Place” ○ Online safety, barriers with tech ○ UMD students interface design ○ Tech Fair ○ Volunteers- Mona, Kendell 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aging in Community (AIC) Mary, Wayne <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2nd Tuesday of the month at 9:30 am ○ Last month two speakers, Elis Glazer, Pedestrian Safety support funding for sidewalks ○ Carol Craig- nutritional meals for seniors that are distributed to older adults at senior centers. More variety of foods for different cultural groups. • Health and Wellness (H&W)- Marsha, Neal at 9:30 am <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1st Tuesday of the month ○ Preparing fact sheet for “Life Transitions as We Age.” Subgroups are working on the topic. • Public Policy (PP) Ryan, Morris <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2nd Thursday of the month at 9:30 am ○ Legislative Breakfast, December 8 ○ Letter to new elected and other county council members to request a meeting with COA. • Communication (CC) Jean, Beverly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3rd Monday of the month 1:00- 2:30 pm ○ Katie and Jean 50 Plus in Montgomery County cable show. November: Lifelong Education, Senior Planet December: Mental Health and the Holidays January: County Executive and County Council ○ New Public service Announcements (PSAs) 	<p>December meeting with the County Council.</p>
<p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home and Community Based Taskforce Recommendations report pending by January 31, 2023 	
<p>Adjourn: 11:46 pm</p>	

